

WE CLAIM:

1. A data acquisition system for collecting data from at least one production well comprising:
 - 5 a data collection device operatively connected to well production equipment for obtaining production data from a well and for reporting the production data to a computer via a wired or wireless interface.
- 10 2. A data acquisition system as in claim 1 wherein the computer is a central computer in operative connection with a plurality of data collection devices each connected to respective production wells.
- 15 3. A data acquisition system as in claim 1 wherein the data collection device includes a central processor operatively connected to an operator input system and a display system, the operator input system for receiving commands from an operator and the display system for displaying processed or unprocessed production data.
- 20 4. A data acquisition system as in claim 1 wherein the data collection device includes any one of or a combination of a digital or analog input/output device operatively connected to the central processor and wherein the digital and/or analog output devices are for operative connection to one or more production sensors or controls.
- 25 5. A data acquisition system as in claim 3 wherein the data collection device includes data storage memory operatively connected to the central processor for storing production data prior to uploading to the computer.
- 30 6. A data acquisition system as in claim 2 wherein the computer includes software having a central management module for managing the collection, analysis and reporting of production data from the data collection device.

7. A data acquisition system as in claim 6 wherein the central management module is operatively connected to a communication interface for sending and receiving data to and from the data collection device.
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8. A data acquisition system as in claim 7 wherein the central management module includes a control module for sending control instructions to the production controls through the data collection device.
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9. A data acquisition system as in claim 2 wherein the data collection device includes a central processor operatively connected to an operator input system and a display system, the operator input system for receiving commands from an operator and the display system for displaying processed or unprocessed production data.
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10. A data acquisition system as in claim 9 wherein the data collection device includes any one of or a combination of a digital or analog input/output device operatively connected to the central processor and wherein the digital and/or analog output devices are for operative connection to one or more production sensors or controls.
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11. A data acquisition system as in claim 10 wherein the data collection device includes data storage memory operatively connected to the central processor for storing production data prior to uploading to the computer.
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12. A data acquisition system as in claim 11 wherein the computer includes software having a central management module for managing the collection, analysis and reporting of production data from the data collection device.
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13. A data acquisition system as in claim 12 wherein the central management module is operatively connected to a communication interface for sending and receiving data to and from the data collection device.

14. A data acquisition system as in claim 13 wherein the central management module includes a control module for sending control instructions to the production controls through the data collection device.
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15. A data acquisition system for collecting data from at least one production well comprising:
- a data collection device operatively connected to well production equipment for obtaining production data from a production well and for providing control
 - 10 instructions to the production equipment;
 - a central computer operatively connected to the data collection device for receiving production data from the data collection device and for sending control instructions to the production equipment via a wired or wireless interface wherein the central computer includes:
 - 15 a central management module for managing the collection, analysis and reporting of production data from the data collection device;
 - a production data database;
 - a wired or wireless interface;
 - a reporting module for formatting reports from the production data database;
 - 20 and,
 - a graphical display module for displaying production data from the production data database
16. A method of collecting data from a production well comprising the steps of:
- 25 a) operatively connecting a data collection device to well production equipment at a well; and,
 - b) uploading production data from the data collection device via a wired or wireless link to a central computer.
- 30 17. A method as in claim 16 further comprising the step of sending a control instruction to the well production equipment from the central computer.